

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION INFORMATION LETTER .

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COLORED TOMATO PRODUCTS ILLEGAL IN PENNSYLVANIA

An item published in Information Letter No. 415 stated that Commissioner Kellogg, of Pennsylvania, had announced that artificially colored tomato products were illegal in that State. The Association has just received a letter from Commissioner Kellogg, stating that this question has been considered again by his department and the decision has been reached not to change the previous position of the department. Commissioner Kellogg goes on to say:

Therefore, our position is that regardless of the declaration of colors on the label we consider artificially colored tomato products as being unlawful.

We will have to insist, therefore, that all new shipments into Pennsylvania be free from color.

PRELIMINARY EDITION OF NET WEIGHT LIST

With this week's Information Letter members of the Association will receive copies of the preliminary edition of "Tentative Weights for Canned Food Products." Distributors' organizations have also arranged to furnish copies to their members. In this way both canners and distributors will have opportunity to offer criticisms and suggestions prior to the issuance of the final revised edition.

This list of weights, with all criticisms of it that may be received before December 15, 1931, will be considered by the Conference Committee and a revised list will then be published.

Suggestions are especially requested regarding changes that should be made in the weights given, and additional products and sizes of cans that should be included. Suggestions may be addressed to the Research Laboratory, National Canners Association, Washington, D. C.

NAVY ASKS FOR CANNED FOOD BIDS

The Navy Department is asking for bids, to be opened November 24, on canned saurkraut, 107,000 pounds for delivery at Brooklyn, 40,000 pounds at Philadelphia, 190,000 pounds at Hampton Roads, 198,000 pounds at Mare Island, and 110,000 pounds at Puget Sound. Schedule 6734, on which to submit bids,

may be obtained from the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy Department at Washington.

The Navy Department will also open bids (Schedule 6746) on December 1 for canned corned beef, 35,000 pounds for delivery at Boston, 65,000 pounds at Brooklyn, 110,000 pounds at Hampton Roads, 155,000 pounds at Mare Island, 55,000 pounds at Puget Sound.

On December 1, the Department will open bids on canned raisins (Schedule 6750), 13,000 pounds for delivery at Boston, 18,000 pounds at Brooklyn, 11,000 pounds at Philadelphia, 60,000 pounds at Hampton Roads, 86,000 pounds at Mare Island, and 48,000 pounds at Puget Sound.

On December 8 bids will be opened on canned mince meat (Schedule 6738), 42,000 pounds for delivery at Hampton Roads and 8,000 pounds at Mare Island.

MEASURING THE COLOR OF TOMATO PRODUCTS

Bulletin No. 350 of the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station, Lafayette, Ind., entitled "Tomato Color as Related to Quality in the Tomato Canning Industry," contains much information that will be of interest to canners of tomatoes and tomato products. The subject of color and its measurement is discussed briefly and in plain terms that are easily understood. The Munsell system of measuring and expressing color is explained and formulae and tables are given for those who are making color determinations.

The effect of different factors on the color of tomato products is shown by records of experimental work and color measurements. Color in tomato products is becoming more and more important, and this bulletin is a timely and valuable contribution to the subject.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS INDIANA CHAIN STORE TAX

The U. S. Supreme Court, by a five-to-four decision on October 12, denied the petition for a rehearing of the case in which the Indiana chain store tax was held valid, and a formal order denying the petition was entered without opinion.

Two other chain store tax cases are scheduled for early hearing. These cases involve the validity of laws enacted by North Carolina and Mississippi.

TOMATO AND KRAUT CABBAGE FORECASTS

Estimates based upon probable yield as reported on October 1st indicate that the production of tomatoes for canning or manufacture will be 42 per cent below that of last year, while

production of cabbage for kraut will be 35 per cent less than last season. The estimates, by states, as announced by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates follow:

State	Acreage		Yield per Acre Indicated		Production Forecast	
	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
New York . . .	15,500	12,100	5.0	8.0	77,500	96,800
New Jersey . .	43,000	31,000	6.0	4.0	258,000	124,000
Pennsylvania . .	5,400	4,300	3.0	3.4	16,200	14,600
Ohio	12,400	9,900	5.4	5.7	67,000	56,400
Indiana	79,000	64,000	5.0	3.4	395,000	217,600
Illinois	6,500	4,500	3.2	3.5	20,800	15,800
Michigan	2,600	2,000	5.4	6.0	14,000	12,000
Iowa	6,400	6,400	5.0	4.0	32,000	25,600
Missouri	28,900	20,230	2.1	2.2	60,700	44,500
Delaware	14,000	11,800	3.4	2.2	47,600	26,000
Maryland	48,900	39,000	3.1	2.1	151,600	81,900
Virginia	15,500	10,800	2.8	1.9	43,400	20,500
Kentucky	8,430	5,900	2.6	2.9	21,900	17,100
Tennessee . . .	14,000	9,800	2.4	2.3	33,600	22,500
Mississippi . . .	3,550	420	3.1	2.4	11,000	1,000
Arkansas	28,000	16,800	2.1	2.5	58,800	42,000
Colorado	2,500	2,800	8.5	7.3	21,200	20,400
Utah	8,200	6,640	6.8	8.0	55,800	53,100
California	52,250	23,100	7.6	6.0	397,100	139,000
Other states * .	9,700	8,800	3.3	2.0	32,300	25,500
U. S. total . .	404,820	290,350	4.48	3.64	1,815,500	1,050,300

* "Other states" include: Connecticut, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

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	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
New York	9,000	5,800	8.0	8.2	72,000	47,600
Ohio	3,300	2,310	5.8	9.0	19,100	20,800
Indiana	1,400	1,260	6.4	6.5	9,000	8,200
Illinois	800	720	7.8	6.0	6,200	4,300
Michigan	2,030	1,520	6.6	6.8	13,400	10,300
Wisconsin	7,200	5,330	9.0	6.0	64,800	32,000
Minnesota	540	380	7.8	4.6	4,200	1,700
Colorado	500	500	11.5	6.5	5,800	3,200
Washington . . .	320	200	9.0	7.9	2,900	1,600
Other states * . .	2,520	1,680	7.0	6.0	17,000	10,000
U. S. total . .	27,610	19,680	7.79	7.10	215,000	139,700

* "Other states" include: Arkansas, California, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Virginia.

WHAT TRUCK CROP GROWERS PLAN

Planting plans of growers of various truck crops are summarized in the following excerpts from the October crop report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture:

BEANS.—The preliminary estimate of acreage for the fall crop of snap beans in Florida and Texas is 19 per cent below last fall's acreage although it is 67 per cent above the average acreage for the preceding five falls. There are reported decreases below last fall of 18 per cent in Florida and 24 per cent in Texas.

BEETS.—Intentions to plant reports of beet growers in Texas indicate a decrease of 21 per cent below 1931 for the 1932 season acreage, but an increase of 9 per cent above the acreage in 1930.

CABBAGE.—Combining the estimated acreage planted in cabbage in the fall group and that intended to be planted in the early group of states, indicates a decrease of 13 per cent below last season's acreage and an increase of 14 per cent above the average acreage for the five preceding seasons, 1926 to 1930. The reported acreage for the fall crop in South Carolina and the Norfolk district of Virginia is 9 per cent smaller than last fall's acreage and 47 per cent greater than the 5-year average acreage. From present intention plans of growers in the early states it appears that the acreage to be planted in that group will be 13 per cent smaller than the 1930 acreage and 10 per cent greater than the 5-year average.

CARROTS.—There appears to be a decrease of 24 per cent below last season's acreage in the acreage planted for the fall crop of carrots in California and intended to be planted in Arizona and Texas. If the intentions-to-plant in the early states are carried out the acreage for the two groups will be more than one-fifth greater than the 5-year average acreage, 1926 to 1930.

PEAS.—Present estimates point to a decrease of 10 per cent below last fall's acreage in the acreage planted and intended to be planted for the fall crop of peas in the third group of late states. If this acreage materializes it will be almost two and one-half times as great as the 5-year average acreage, 1925-1929. The total acreage now estimated for the commercial shipping crop in the United States this year is 9 per cent greater than that in 1930 and 79 per cent greater than the 5-year average acreage.

STRAWBERRIES.—If growers' reported intentions materialize in all sections of the country, the commercial acreage of strawberries available for picking in 1932 will be between one-fourth and one-fifth larger than the acreage harvested the past season. The intention reports indicate 186,860 acres for harvest in 1932 compared with 153,280 acres this year and an average of 185,580 acres for the five-year period 1926-'30.

COMMISSION SUSPENDS CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

By an order entered in Investigation and Suspension Docket No. 3646, the Interstate Commerce Commission has suspended from October 15, 1931, until May 15, 1932, the operation of certain schedules that would revise the classification ratings on certain fruits and vegetables in Western Classification territory,

which would result in increases. The following is illustrative of the proposed changes:

	Present class	Proposed class
Melons, cantaloupes, cabbage, potatoes, onions, beets, pumpkins, turnips: carloads	C	5
Tomatoes: carloads	5	4

QUALITY OF PEAS CANNED IN CHICAGO DISTRICT

"The survey of pea-canning establishments in the territory of the Chicago station of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, recently completed, showed that packers have put up this season a very fair grade of goods," according to H. D. Garrett, chief of the station. Chicago station officials visited approximately 45 plants in the district, which includes the southern peninsula of Michigan, northern Indiana, northeastern Illinois, and southeastern Wisconsin. Practically all of the canners in this territory have been careful, this season, to harvest their peas at a time when they were tender and succulent so as to meet the requirements for tenderness defined by the standard under the McNary-Mapes amendment to the Federal food and drugs act.

It was necessary in one case, however, to seize a shipment of canned peas that contained a high percentage of hard peas. These peas were definitely below standard, but the offense under the law consisted in the fact that the goods were not labeled with the sub-standard branding. These peas were not definitely unwholesome and their sale, if properly labeled, would not have been illegal, but the shipper was liable to action in that he did not tell exactly what his goods were.

According to Mr. Garrett few canners in his district will find it necessary to label their canned peas as sub-standard this season. "Weather conditions," he said, "have not been such as to encourage the best crop, but, in the majority of cases, packers had definitely in mind the requirements of the Mapes amendment and were careful to harvest and pack their crop in such a manner as to meet the standard."

ALASKA SALMON PACK SHOWS INCREASE

An increase of 6 per cent is noted in the Alaska salmon pack through August, as compared with the same period last year, and the gain will be further augmented by fall fishing, according to the Bureau of Fisheries.

The Bureau's Seattle office, in cooperation with the Associa-

tion of Pacific Fisheries, estimates the total pack to August 31 at 5,335,461 cases, as against 4,839,500 cases in 1930 to August 31 and 5,032,326 for the entire season of 1930.

Output of red salmon in 1931 is almost double that of the preceding year and also shows a fair increase over the average for the 5-year period. Excellent runs of pink salmon entered the waters of southeastern Alaska, with the result that despite curtailed operations the production of this species was well above the average for recent years, although it was substantially less than the 1930 output.

BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON PACK

This season's salmon pack in British Columbia, up to September 23, 1931, amounts to approximately 625,394 cases as compared with 1,813,604 cases in 1930 and 940,362 cases in 1929, according to the Canadian Department of Fisheries.

Nearly 500,000 cases of pinks from the 1930 salmon season still remain in stock, it is understood. Dealers are optimistic that this carryover will be advantageously disposed of as the current adverse exchange on the Canadian dollar, if continued at the present rate, is tantamount to a preferential tariff on Canadian exports of approximately 10 per cent.

BUSINESS INDICATORS

(Weeks ended Saturday; weekly average 1923-1925=100)

	1931			1930		
	Oct. 10	Oct. 3	Sept. 26	Oct. 11	Oct. 4	Sept. 27
Composite Index: *						
New York Times	68.6	†67.9	82.5	83.1	83.6	
Business Week	71.4	†72.0	87.2	86.6	86.2	
Freight car loadings	81.1	77.0	99.6	†101.3	99.2	
Wholesale prices (Fisher's):						
All commodities	68.1	68.1	68.6	82.9	82.3	83.1
Agricultural products	54.0	53.0	54.8	84.1	83.4	85.6
Non-agricultural products	70.6	71.0	71.6	81.1	80.6	80.7
Bank debits outside New York City	107.6	91.3	88.2	120.3	128.8	106.5
Bond prices	96.3	97.1	99.4	108.2	109.0	109.0
Stock prices	93.4	92.3	102.2	178.2	187.0	193.7
Interest rates:						
Call money	36.4	36.4	36.4	48.5	48.5	48.5
Time money	61.3	57.1	40.0	67.7	62.9	67.7
Business failures	127.3	133.4	118.7	116.2	109.8	119.9

* Relative to a computed normal taken as 100.

† Revised.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total		Merchandise		Other
		Miscellaneous	L. C. L.		
Week ended October 3	777,837	292,284	219,097	266,456	
Previous week	738,029	274,253	216,819	246,957	
Corresponding week, 1930	971,255	394,058	244,843	332,354	
Corresponding week, 1929	1,170,947	479,929	272,999	427,019	

TRUCK SHIPMENTS LOWER THAN LAST YEAR

Combined shipments of 34 leading fruits and vegetables during the week ended October 10 decreased slightly, amounting to 25,045 cars, as against 36,250 for the corresponding week last season. Shipments of articles of particular interest to the canning trade were as follows:

Commodity	CARLOT SHIPMENTS			Total this season thru Oct. 10	Total last season thru Oct. 11	Total last season
	Oct. 4-10, 1931	Sept. 27- Oct. 3, 1931	Oct. 5-11, 1930			
Apples, total	6,034	5,601	8,260	27,007	32,859	100,794
Eastern states	3,084	2,740	3,074	14,202	14,019	43,250
Western states	2,950	2,852	5,180	12,715	17,040	60,538
Asparagus	16	8	12	3,761	2,757	2,780
Beans, snap and lima	38	52	71	8,857	9,162	9,559
Beets	22	12		1,589		
Cabbage	1,035	1,151	1,549	25,838	24,682	38,319
Carrots:						
1932 season	64	23	85	87	138	9,511
1931 season	58	90	73	9,511	10,247	12,429
Cauliflower	280	226	155	1,584	1,471	9,615
Cucumbers	20	22	43	6,227	7,288	7,063
Mixed deciduous fruit	39	61	110	3,423	5,509	5,921
Mixed vegetables	389	415	420	23,000	25,856	31,180
Peaches	83	182	53	45,710	38,480	38,480
Pears	593	820	1,059	10,655	24,274	28,835
Peas, green	95	111	94	6,742	6,634	6,800
Peppers	23	34	82	2,681	2,450	2,786
Plums and prunes	29	67	14	6,082	8,605	8,716
Spinach	17	20	27	9,458	9,487	9,636
Tomatoes	548	656	922	25,489	30,254	34,050

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FRUIT

The following table shows the holdings of fruit in cold storage reported to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as of October 1, also a comparison with last year and with a five-year average:

	October 1, 1931	October 1, 1930	5-year average
Apples:			
Barrels	388,000	500,000	504,000
Boxes	2,943,000	2,135,000	1,548,000
Bushel baskets	1,905,000	1,982,000	1,187,000
Pears:			
Boxes	1,813,000	2,464,000	1,721,000
Bushel baskets	152,000	420,000	320,000
Frozen and preserved fruit (pounds)	103,428,000	81,178,000	68,477,000

BEETLE QUARANTINE NOT EXTENDED

The Secretary of Agriculture announced October 10 that the Japanese beetle quarantine will not be extended at this time to the states of Ohio and South Carolina. The Plant Quarantine and Control Administration held a public hearing in Washington on October 8, to consider the advisability of extending the quarantine to the two states. The Administration now believes

that for the present at least the situation can be handled by these states without the aid of a Federal quarantine.

JAM PRODUCTION IN GERMANY

During the year ended March 31, 1931, 190 plants were in operation in Germany on the production of jams, marmalades, and fruit jellies, according to the American commercial attache at Berlin. The total production amounted to 82,892,960 pounds of jam and marmalades, 20,943,700 pounds of plum and other fruit sauce, excluding pure apple sauce, and 10,582,080 pounds of fruit jelly.

The supplies of pulp brought forward by the jam industry into the new harvest year amounted to 26,014,280 pounds on May 1, 1931.

ARGENTINE FOODSTUFF REPRESENTATIVES ASSOCIATION FORMED

At a recent general meeting of representatives and importers of foodstuffs and allied lines held in Buenos Aires, the Argentine Corporation of Representatives of Foodstuffs and Allied Products was definitely constituted, its board of directors elected and its statutes approved. According to the American trade commissioner's office at Buenos Aires the activities of the new organization will include: Improvement of relations between foodstuffs importers and foreign exporters; arbitration of commercial disputes; maintenance of statistical information service; formulation of sales rules; negotiations with Argentine government to eliminate unnecessary obstacles to trade.

CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Colored tomato products illegal in Pennsylvania	2693	Quality of pears canned in Chicago district	2697
Preliminary edition of net weight list	2693	Alaska salmon pack shows increase	2697
Navy asks for canned food bids	2693	British Columbia salmon pack	2698
Measuring the color of tomato products	2694	Business indicators	2698
Supreme Court upholds Indiana chain store tax	2694	Truck shipments lower than last year	2699
Tomato and kraut cabbage forecasts	2694	Cold storage holdings of fruit	2699
What truck crop growers plan	2696	Beetle quarantine not extended	2699
Commission suspends classification changes	2696	Jam production in Germany	2700
		Argentine foodstuff representatives association formed	2700